



100 Years Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2019 No. 3

March 2019

Go Kit



Rodney Brown, AA5RB, making his show and tell presentation on his Go Kit at the San Antonio Radio Club meeting on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at Grady's Barbeque

Our last meeting at Grady's Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216 at 7:00 p. m. on Thursday, February 14, 2019, featured a presentation by Rodney Brown, AA5RB, on his Go Kit. Rodney AA5RB is active in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) sponsored by the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL). To be effective in ARES, you need to have radios, be good at using your radios, and be



Rodney Brown, AA5RB, making his show and tell presentation on his Go Kit (boxes stacked on cart to the right) at the San Antonio Radio Club meeting on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at Grady's Barbeque

able to move your radios. It is common for ARES and other ham radio operators to construct *Go Kits* with everything they need to use during deployment.

Rodney AA5RB did an extensive show and tell presentation of his Go Kit. He uses two heavy duty tool boxes from Harbor Freight as the center point of his Go Kit. In one, he has mounted both VHF/UHF and HF radios. In the other, he has his power system. The radio box uses a wooden shelf on which he mounts equipment both above and below it. He can remove the wooden shelf and all of the equipment mounted on it whenever he needs to work on it. This access makes inspections, adjustments, maintenance, and repairs easy to do. The power system is pretty sophisticated. He has a battery and a power supply in the box. (Continued on Page 3)

Why I Chose Buddipole

Our next club meeting will be at 7:00 p. m. (1900) on Thursday, March 14, 2019, at Grady's Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216. The program will be presented by Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, on Why I Chose the Buddipole.

- Groups.io updated memberships and added membership sub group to store membership files.
- Mailchimp – campaigns for Newsletter & Meeting, campaigns for Centennial Photo Shoot
- Web Site Statistics Sessions 3,250 Up 10%
- Device Breakdown Desktop 55%, Tablet 12%, and Mobile 33%
- Top Referrals arrl.org 196, facebook.com 24, sanantoniohams.org 24, duckduckgo.com 18, mfacebook.com 15, txvhffm.org 15, and lm.facebook.com 10

Membership – Bill Craft, KD2HIQ reported as of January 31, 2019 14 New Members, 45 online member renewals and we have 95 paid members, 20 free members, and 121 members. Bill also, stated we need to support the ARRL.

Chairman of the Board Report –Harold C. Fleischer, III AE5AS report meeting on February 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Grady's BAR-B-Q, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216. To discuss 2019 Budget and to re-apply for 501c3. Budget was approved with some changes, added sales from Centennial, Field Day Equipment, and Also the conclusion was that there was little value in obtaining 501(c)(3) status.

Education and Training – David Finell N7LRY, No Report

Emergency Communications –JC Smith, N5RXS, No Report

Executive –We met to coordinate a budget for March 1, 2019 to February 28, 2020 before the next General membership meeting and Board of Directors Meeting on February 7, 2019. Made changes to budget and was approved.

Finance and Review – Paul Gudio N5IUT No Report

JOTA – John Douglas W5NZK No Report.

Nominating - inactive

VEC – Pat Knight AD5BR reported we had a great turnout at our Radio Fiesta VE session January 12 in Schertz. J C arranged a wonderful space for us to have our session at the Radio Fiesta — the gym!

Eleven candidates earned Technician licenses, three passed Tech and General exams to earn General licenses, and one passed all three exams and earned his Amateur Extra license.

Twelve candidates upgraded their licenses. Nine earned General upgrades and three earned Amateur Extra upgrades.

There was a VE session at the HAMsters Lunch & Learn on February 2 at the American Red Cross. One person earned a Technician license and three hams earned Extra upgrades.

Congratulations to our new hams and upgrades. Thanks also to all of the VEs who administered the exams.

We will have a regular VE session 10 AM February 23, at the Great Northwest Library, 9050 Wellwood. Candidates can pre-register and get more information for any of these sessions at hamtest@gmail.com . Centennial Commemoration (Temporary) - Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ,

Report on end-to-end test of Special Event setup/teardown, had issues with Yagi antenna, and had to use the vertical antenna. Tom O'Brien also report on first W5SC/100 Special Event operation made a total of 38 contacts. The Photo Op at the Alamo will be on Feb 17 at 2:00 pm. Meet in front of the Alamo. 5 copies of the permits were hand out to members for the picture at the Alamo. Centennial Swag sold at Radio Fiesta available for sale after the meeting. Coins, pins, and patches.

Radio Fiesta – JC Smith, N5RXS, stated never have so many tables have been sold. Also stated if MTC and HRO did not wanted to come, there is not much we can do. Budgeted about 6K for Radio Fiesta.

Old Business (Motions carried over from previous meetings) - None

New Business (Must be presented as a motion) – None

Announcements for The Good of Amateur Radio

Richard Elder WB5ACN Talked about the Motorola T801 it allows you to share and track locations

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p. m.

Rosendo Guzman N5YBG
President

Go Kit (Continued from Page 1)



Mike Harrison, KB5KST, Vice President and Program Committee Chairperson, and Rodney Brown, AA5RB, with Rodney's Go Kit opened with the radios on the left and power on the right



Radio Box of the Go Kit that Rodney Brown, AA5RB, presented that has both VHF/UHF and HF radios and a digital capability with SignalLink USB



Power Box of the Go Kit that Rodney Brown, AA5RB, presented that has a battery, a power supply, and a battery booster

He has a Battery Booster as well. This allows him to operate with AC power while having a battery backup. When the AC power is on, he can charge the battery with the power supply. When the AC power is off, the battery goes on line. The battery booster maintains operating voltages for as long as possible as the battery is slowly drained. At a site, he opens each box and interconnects them to each other and to antennas and, where available, to AC power. Rodney AA5RB assembled this Go Kit about 3 years ago. While he could carry the Go Kit, he usually puts it on a 2-wheel hand cart. His experience with this Go Kit at ARES exercises has been very positive.

After Rodney Brown, AA5RB, completed his presentation, he was thanked by Mike Harrison, KB5KST, on behalf of all members present. (Rodney AA5RB has since been sent a Program Certificate of Appreciations for his superb Go Kit presentation.)

Officer and Committee reports were generally routine and are shown in the minutes starting on Page 3. However, there were some brief comments on Centennial Radio Fiesta 2019 by its Chairperson, J C Smith, N5RXS. The on-line registration was a success. It was such a success that extra tables were placed in the halls. This needs careful attention next year.

Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, Chairperson, Centennial Commemoration Committee, reported on three items. First, the sale of souvenir coins, patches, and pins has started and is going well. He still has some of each left. Second, the first on-air event was held on Saturday, February 9, 2019, at the San Antonio Museum of Science and Technology (SAMSAT). This was a success. Third, a picture at the Alamo is planned for Sunday, February 17, 2019, at 2:00 p. m. The Centennial banner will be used, and the intent will be to match the old photograph taken in 1929 of a meeting of the West Gulf Division of ARRL that includes several SARC members.



100 Years Centennial Commemoration

On February 17, 2019, members of the San Antonio Radio Club (SARC) gathered on the Alamo Plaza to take a picture at 2:00 p. m. This picture was a suggestion that Rosendo Guzman, N5YBG, made to the Centennial Commemoration Committee that they readily adopted. Tom O'Brien, Chairperson, Centennial Commemoration Committee, did the work of setting the date and time. He had to do a lot of paperwork to make the photo shoot "legal". David Finell, N7LRY, and Paul Guido, N5IUT, were both photographers for the event. Not incidentally, Bill Craft, KD2HIQ, made sure all internet means of communication were employed to notify members of the date and time. As expected, no one date and time worked for all members so SARC just went with it for those that could be there.

SARC has a 1927 picture of the ARRL's West Gulf Division posing in front of the Alamo with a banner. The picture identifies several people. Some of them are clearly SARC members. The idea was to try to match the photograph to the extent possible with a new one. Tom Ab5XZ brought the Centennial Commemoration Banner to use in order to kind of match the one used in 1929. In all, 21 members of SARC are in the new picture.

The pictures in this **Bexar Wire** are from Paul N5IUT. Those that David N7LRY will be shared when they become available.



Original Picture taken by Paul Guido, N5IUT, from which he made a black and white and then a narrow strip photograph like the 1927 one



Left to Right: David Finell N7LRY, Unknown, Rich Roudebush N4DCA, Unknown, George Harrison KB5KST, Unknown, Fred Cruz K15BYG, Unknown, Bill Craft KD2HIQ, Richard Elder WB5ACN, Unknown, Lyndon Woodall N5LYF, G. Bryan Clark WB5DRI, Rosendo Guzman N5YBG, John D'Andrea AA5JD, Virginia Check K5TQK, Mike Check K5UCQ, Tom O'Brien AB5XZ, Paul Guido N5IUT



Volunteer Examiners at Work

Pat Knight, AD5BR, Chairperson, Volunteer Examination Committee, and the Volunteer Examiners stayed busy in the month of February 2019. In addition to the special test session supporting the HAMsters Lunch and Learn on February 2, 2019 reported in the February 2019 **Bexar Wire**, they conducted a test session on Saturday, February 23, 2019.

The session on Saturday, February 23, 2019, was the regular fourth Saturday of even months test session at the Great Northwest Library starting at 10:00 a. m. There were a total of 10 candidates and 7 VEs. This was a very successful session with six people passing Technician and becoming ham radio operators for the first time, one upgrading to General, and one upgrading to Amateur Extra.



VE test session area looking from the back of the room to the front at the Great Northwest Library on February 23, 2019



VE test session area looking from the front of the room at the Great Northwest Library on February 23, 2019 with two candidates taking tests in the foreground while the Red Team processes four more candidates

FCC Ham Statistics

This is kind of a did you article. There is a Hamdata website, www.hamdata.com, that specializes in knowing what callsigns are available. To do this they track changes to the amateur radio part of the FCC database. One of the factoids that they develop is the current count of licenses in effect. As of March 9, 2019, the following number of licenses were in effect:

Technician	414,667
Novice	9,713
General	188,162
Advanced	43,964
Extra	153,258
<u>Club</u>	<u>12,689</u>
Total	822,453

Per the FCC, the high was 825,088 licenses on February 11, 2019. Last item, there are 80,717 callsigns in Canada

Keiser Family a Family of Extra HAMS

The family of Crys and Bob Keiser have made frequent appearances at VE sessions starting with their first one on October 27, 2019. Since then, they have been at every test session through February 23, 2019. If they come back, it will be as VEs. Bob had a license, but the other four family members did not. Steadily each member of the family worked their way through Technician, General, and Amateur Extra. They are all Amateur Extras now. The youngest is Daniel at 10 years old. He is among the youngest Amateur Extras that SARC's VEs have ever tested. They have joined SARC and have been coming to meetings.



Jonathan Z. Keiser, AG5SY, Robert K. Keiser, N99B, Crystalyn I. Keiser, AG5SO, and Sarah E. Keiser, AG5TJ, with Daniel C. Keiser, N3DXL, in front (Photo courtesy of Lee Besing, N5NTG)

The following information was submitted by them about their own club:

The Keiser Amateur Radio Club - KI5CTR - set out on their amateur radio licensing journey on October 27, 2017. Over the past several months, the parents, along with their children still at home, added studying licensing questions to their daily work and school routine. As of February, they are all Extras - N99B, AG5SO, AG5SY, and N3DXL, and KI5CSN. Contact N99B at extrabobin-texas@icloud.com for more information about this ham-family.

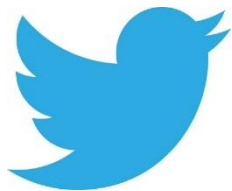


SARC has had a Groups.io. Its name is saradioclub.

The saradioclub Group.io is being used to publicize SARC business meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes. Members of the saradioclub Group.io can and have asked each other technical questions or sought assistance.

The saradioclub Group.io is a closed group. To become a member, go to saradioclub.groups.io. (You may need to have a Groups.io account.) You will then need to select *Apply for membership in this group*. This generates a message. SARC members can expect approval to join the saradioclub Group.io in probably less than 24 hours.

SARC Tweets



Reminder: there are two active Twitter accounts for the San Antonio Radio Club. They are @SARadioClub and @ARadioFiesta.

The @SARadioClub is being used to publicize SARC meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes.

As Radio Fiesta 2017 work has commenced, the @ARadioFiesta is being used again for the January 14, 2017 Radio Fiesta.

SARC members are encouraged to follow both Twitter accounts.

SARC Facebook



There is a San Antonio Radio Club – SARC (@saradioclub) Facebook Page.

The newsletter editor is making posts about SARC meetings and other activities. Any Officer, Committee Chairperson, or member who believes that they have information that should be posted to this page should contact the newsletter editor using the contact information for the newsletter editor on page 2 of this newsletter.

SARC members are encouraged to follow this Facebook Page.

SARC SLACK



There is a San Antonio Radio Club Slack team – w5sc.slack.com.

Slack teams are meant to foster communication between team members. Paul Guido, N5IUT, has established the w5sc.slack.com team for SARC. He has also established some channels. Think of the channels as topical areas.

To join send an email to Paul Guido, N5IUT, at radioteacher@gmail.com. In actuality, any team member already a part of the w5sc.slack.com can invite you, but Paul is known to be on it.

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
Billc851@gmail.com
210-233-8863

Amateur Radio License Classes

Multiple classes planned for 2019.

For more information, contact:
David Finell, N7LRY
Instructor

SARC Meeting Dates for 2019 & Early 2020

March 14, 2019
April 11, 2019
May 9, 2019
June 13, 2019
July 11, 2019
August 8, 2019
September 12, 2019
October 10, 2019
November 14, 2019
December (None)
January 9, 2020
February 13, 2020

Meetings are held at Grady's Barbeque,
327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX
78216 at 7:00 p. m.

Meetings are held at Grady's Barbeque,
327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX
78216 at 7:00 p. m.

Come early and eat with other members
coming early.

License Testing Dates for 2019 & Early 2020

April 27, 2019
June 22, 2019
August 24, 2019
October 26, 2019
December 28, 2019
January 11, 2020
February 22, 2020

Times and locations along with required
document information can be found on
SARC's website.

SARC does all of its licensing testing as a
part of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordi-
nator (VEC) organization so all of the Vol-
unteer Examiners in SARC are duly author-
ized Volunteer Examiners of ARRL's VEC.

JOTA

Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air

This year's date is Oct 19, 2019.

More information will be available as the
date draws closer.

Radio Fiesta 2019

January 11, 2020
Schertz Civic Center
See newsletter article for more information

Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency commu-
nications, contact:
JC Smith N5RXS

Field Day 2019

Setup: Friday, June 21, 2019
Operations: Saturday, June 22, 2019
& Sunday, June 23, 2019

*Where SARC proves they are an
eating group with a radio problem.*

More information to follow, but hold these
dates.